

## PREFACE

The Bible is a library of Divine Truth. It is the masterpiece of all literature. Truths have been the inspiration of the world's greatest achievements in literature, sculpture, art, science, and in reform and inspirational teaching. It is the supreme authority on practical knowledge for men and women in every walk of life. Within its sacred pages may be found counsel and wisdom for every condition and circumstance of human experience. Its scope is broader than all human knowledge and experience and its heights and depths reach beyond the utmost limits of all eternities. In its use there is constant need for a thorough system of Indexing and for simple Collations of Scriptural references.

The design of the special system of Indices and References used in the STANDARD REFERENCE INDEXED BIBLE is to enable people in all walks of life to find quickly the teachings of the Bible on any subject, character, place or event. In the use of these Helps the reader has immediate access to this great storehouse of Divine and infallible truth. The doors of the Holy Bible are thrown wide open and all the practical teachings of its sixty-six Books are made alike available to the humblest reader and to the most profound scholar.

The Indices are simple, systematic, analytical, thorough and exhaustive. All Bible References are given by Book, Chapter, verse and page, thus enabling the reader to turn quickly to the Scriptures wanted. By their use, combined with the system of References given in the Text, the Sunday School teacher, Christian worker and minister of the Gospel can readily and rapidly trace any investigation throughout the entire Bible, and can easily secure all the teachings of this sacred library on any given subject.

Two chief purposes have been kept constantly in mind by the editors and compilers: First, to provide a simple and adequate Index and References by which the layman may search the Scriptures for first hand information. It is often said "The Bible is its own best interpreter." The STANDARD REFERENCE INDEXED BIBLE makes this statement literally true for the humblest layman. The Second consideration has been the "Time and labor saving" demands of today. This idea has been closely adhered to in all these Helps. Years of Biblical research and the work of hundreds of Bible scholars are represented in these Indices and References and are placed at the immediate use of students.

## PART I

This section opens with a concise and scholarly presentation of the Bible as the revealed Word of God. Then follows a treatise of fundamental proofs of its Divine inspiration and authority. A brief, but comprehensive, history of the English translations of the Bible is given, supplying adequate information on this important question of Bible knowledge. The next feature is a summary and synopsis of the sixty-six Books of the Bible, classifying them and giving reliable information regarding date, authorship, contents, design and structure of each Book.

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